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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Commissioner of Labour

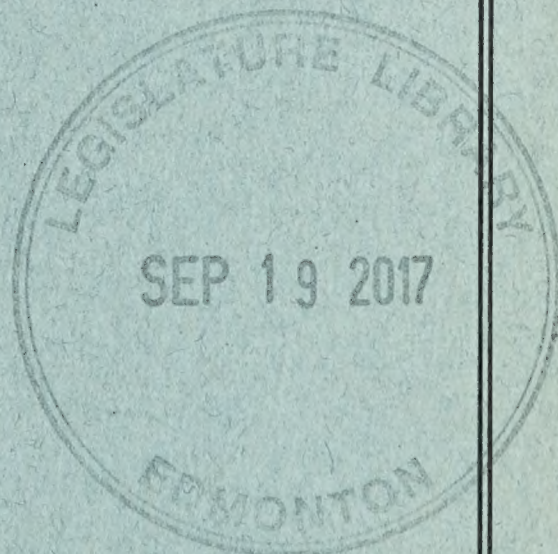
OF THE

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

FOR THE YEAR

1927

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



EDMONTON:

W. D. McLEAN, ACTING KING'S PRINTER

1928

Sessional Paper No. 22, 1928.

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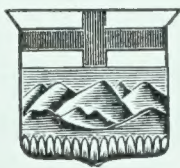
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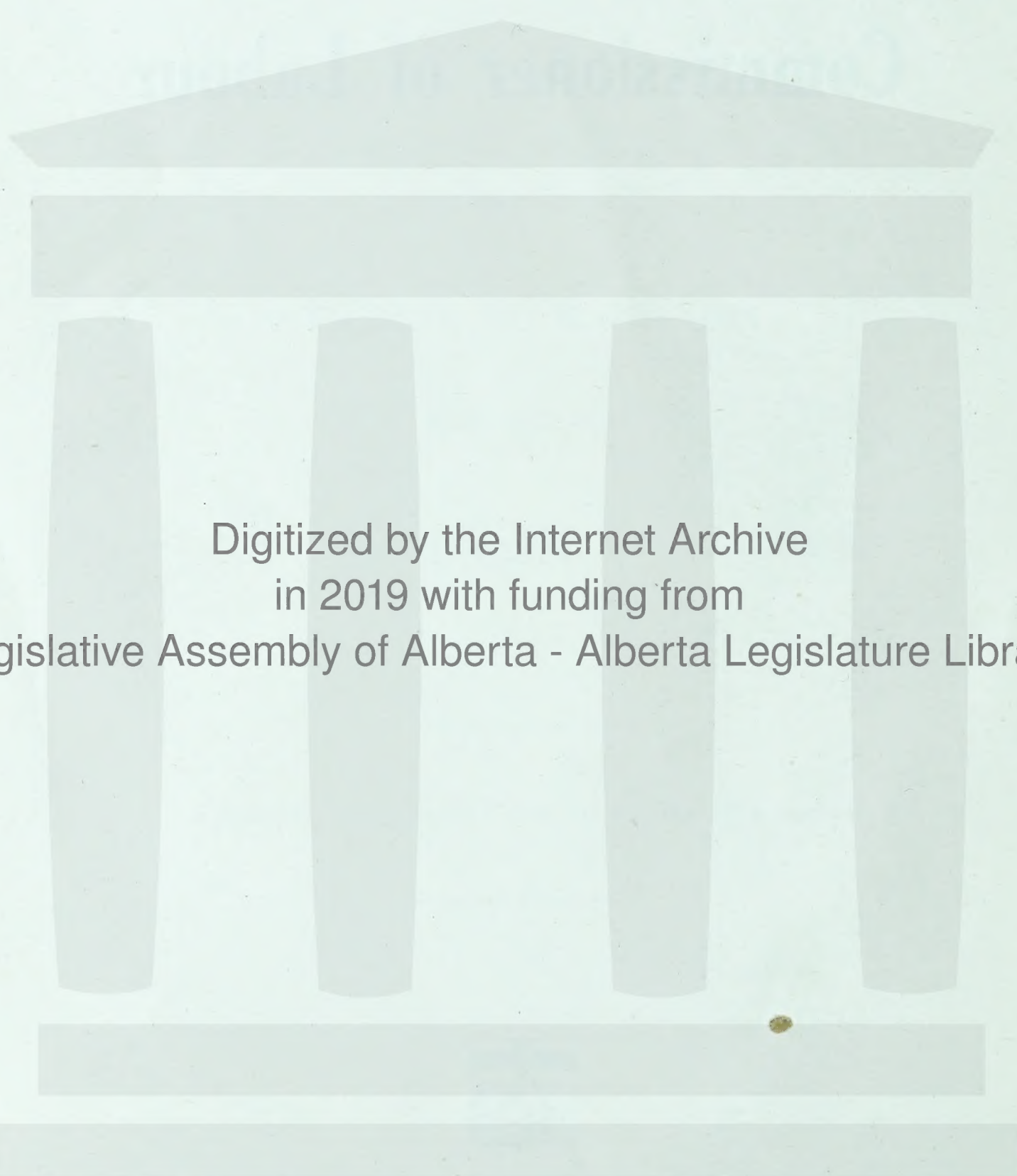
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HON. J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Sir:—

I have the honour to submit herewith the report of the Bureau of Labour for the period January 1st, 1927, to March 31st, 1928.

With the transfer of the Bureau of Labour from the Public Works Department to Executive Council, we were called upon to undertake the direct responsibility for handling mail and accounting.

During the period 22,900 pieces of mail were received and 28,819 ordinary and 1,908 registered sent out; 4,576 pieces of cash amounting in total to \$64,142.90 were received and 384 expenditure vouchers prepared. Records of income and expenditure have been checked with the Audit and were found to balance.

The policy of using the services of all inspectors for inspections under the provisions of The Factories Act, Minimum Wage Act and Theatre Regulations was continued and proved very satisfactory.

Inspections under the Steam Boilers Act were carried out very efficiently, and show an increase in the number inspected.

The returns from the Employment Service show there were greater employment opportunities in the industries of the Province.

The report of the Minimum Wage Board contains a record of the various matters which received attention during the period.

Respectfully submitted,

W. SMITTEN,

Commissioner of Labour.

STATISTICS OF TRADES AND INDUSTRIES.

The returns received this year indicate a marked improvement in business during the year 1927.

Returns from 1,528 firms covered 33,094 male employees over eighteen, 651 males under eighteen, 4,236 females over eighteen, 232 females under eighteen, and 575 apprentices. Total payroll for wages and salaries was \$50,166,735.12, of which sum \$44,281,394.81 was paid to wage-earners.

The returns, when considered as to employment by months for males, show a difference similar to that of the previous year, March being the month of least employment, when 27,502 were employed, and November, the month of greatest, when 31,679 were employed.

There was a marked increase in the numbers employed during last six months of the year over those employed for the first six months.

As in previous years, the returns, when considered by individual industries, show great fluctuations, and when this is considered with the grouped totals it is apparent that for the unskilled work

in the various industries men interchange from one to the other, thereby maintaining a better general balance.

The returns of monthly employment of females show an increase in the number employed throughout the year. There was a slight decrease from January to February, which was the month of least employment, when 4,040 females were employed.

Following that there was a small increase each month, with December the month of greatest employment, when 4,695 females were employed.

The accompanying tables give in detail the industrial returns.

SUMMARY OF ALL

1,528 FIRMS.

Officers, Superintendents and Managers.....	\$ 5,885,340.31
Clerks, Stenographers, Bookkeepers, etc.	6,503,599.73
Wage-earners (including piece-workers, salesmen, etc.)	37,777,795.08
Total	<u>\$50,166,735.12</u>

AVERAGE NUMBER OF WAGE-EARNERS

1927: Month.	Males.	Females.	Month.	Males.	Females.
January	28,967	4,048	July	30,005	4,280
February	28,347	4,040	August	30,789	4,283
March	27,502	4,098	September	30,468	4,338
April	27,668	4,229	October	30,693	4,436
May	28,702	4,253	November	31,679	4,593
June	28,920	4,201	December	31,621	4,695

CLASSIFIED WEEKLY WAGE RATES (WAGE-EARNERS ONLY)

For Week of Employment of Greatest Number.	MALES		FEMALES		Appren- tices.
	18 Years & Over.	Under 18 Years.	18 Years & Over.	Under 18 Years.	
Under \$6.00	36	21	16	6	36
\$ 6.00 to \$ 6.99.....	12	13	5	1	9
7.00 to 7.99.....	15	49	48	10	81
8.00 to 8.99.....	38	65	19	8	38
9.00 to 9.99.....	57	72	136	30	64
10.00 to 10.99.....	77	91	151	41	68
11.00 to 11.99.....	121	62	110	17	30
12.00 to 12.99.....	242	77	678	67	71
13.00 to 13.99.....	298	38	188	7	17
14.00 to 14.99.....	1419	17	340	17	21
15.00 to 15.99.....	773	49	447	9	17
16.00 to 16.99.....	434	13	405	6	10
17.00 to 17.99.....	542	10	253	2	4
18.00 to 18.99.....	2119	38	289	....	9
19.00 to 19.99.....	1181	5	148	1	4
20.00 to 20.99.....	1030	1	249	....	7
21.00 to 21.99.....	1747	8	109	....	1
22.00 to 22.99.....	1210	....	118	....	4
23.00 to 23.99.....	697	1	103	....	17
24.00 to 24.99.....	1338	....	71	....	....
25.00 to 25.99.....	1455	1	147	....	2
26.00 to 26.99.....	972	1	30	....	1
27.00 to 27.99.....	1375	3	38	....	26
28.00 to 28.99.....	764	....	27	....	1
29.00 to 29.99.....	1129	2	17	....	7
30.00 to 34.99.....	5521	....	61	....	26
35.00 to 39.99.....	3420	....	21	....	4
40.00 to 44.99.....	2052	5	8	....	....
45.00 to 49.99.....	1200	4	4	....	....
50.00 and over	1826	5	2	....	....
Totals	33,094	651	4236	232	575

WEEKLY HOURS OF LABOUR.				NUMBER OF WEEKS PER YEAR			
10 employees worked		3 hours.		1296 firms operated		52 weeks.	
6	"	"	4	"	"	51	"
10	"	"	6	12	"	50	"
8	"	"	7	4	"	49	"
54	"	"	8	9	"	48	"
2	"	"	9	3	"	47	"
22	"	"	10	2	"	46	"
10	"	"	12	2	"	45	"
7	"	"	14	5	"	44	"
19	"	"	15	4	"	42	"
1	"	"	16	2	"	41	"
18	"	"	18	17	"	40	"
9	"	"	20	3	"	39	"
6	"	"	22	3	"	37	"
25	"	"	24	9	"	36	"
2	"	"	25	7	"	35	"
5	"	"	26	7	"	34	"
6	"	"	27	2	"	33	"
12	"	"	28	11	"	32	"
6	"	"	29	2	"	31	"
24	"	"	30	12	"	30	"
8	"	"	31	2	"	29	"
8	"	"	32	2	"	28	"
22	"	"	33	1	"	27	"
3	"	"	34	14	"	26	"
6	"	"	35	5	"	25	"
92	"	"	36	7	"	24	"
54	"	"	37	2	"	23	"
61	"	"	38	7	"	22	"
644	"	"	39	9	"	20	"
264	"	"	40	2	"	19	"
92	"	"	41	9	"	18	"
391	"	"	42	1	"	17	"
87	"	"	43	6	"	16	"
6,356	"	"	44	4	"	15	"
819	"	"	45	3	"	14	"
748	"	"	46	7	"	13	"
328	"	"	47	4	"	12	"
19,846	"	"	48	1	"	11	"
441	"	"	49	3	"	10	"
657	"	"	50	6	"	9	"
178	"	"	51	4	"	8	"
302	"	"	52	3	"	7	"
17	"	"	53	1	"	6	"
1,911	"	"	54	2	"	5	"
163	"	"	55	6	"	4	"
396	"	"	56	2	"	3	"
9	"	"	58	2	"	2	"
83	"	"	59				
3,055	"	"	60				
37	"	"	63				
4	"	"	64				
26	"	"	66				
1	"	"	68				
1	"	"	69				
201	"	"	70				
109	"	"	72				
12	"	"	77				
1	"	"	78				
85	"	"	80				
81	"	"	84				
4	"	"	91				

LABOUR DISPUTES ACT
SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF MINISTER

Charged with the Administration of the Act.

To HIS HONOUR

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Sir:—

In compliance with the provisions of Section 69 of The Labour Disputes Act I have the honour to submit the following report relating to the matter transacted by me under the provisions of the Labour Disputes Act.

During the past year very little disturbance happened to industry as a result of industrial disputes. Five disputes of a minor nature only took place; three in respect of the industry of coal mining and two in respect of the industry of building construction.

No application was received for the establishment of a Board under the Act in respect of any of the said disputes.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) J. E. BROWNLEE,

Premier.

INSPECTIONS

FACTORIES ACT

Inspections under the provisions of The Factories Act and The Minimum Wage Act were performed by using the services of all Inspectors appointed within the Bureau of Labour.

The operation of this policy has proven very satisfactory, as it provides more systematic inspection, prevents duplication of visits to industrial establishments and reduces transportation and subsistence costs of Inspectors.

During the period January 1st, 1927, to March 31st, 1928, Boiler Inspectors, at the time of their regular inspection visit to outlying points, inspected 133 factories. Included in these were creameries, cheese factories, machine shops, flour mills and power plants.

Under the provisions of The Factories Act 4,127 inspections were made of 3,425 factories, shops, hotels, offices and office buildings, in which were employed 21,063 males and 6,336 females.

Recommendations relative to safety, sanitation, hours and wages and the employment of children to the number of 482 were made, all of which were fully carried out by employers. All places within the scope of the Act received one inspection visit during the year, subsequent visits being for the purpose of checking up on recommendations, on complaint, or where there is a varying element of risk.

There were 654 inspections of 537 elevators, in connection with which 346 safety recommendations were made. Of the elevators inspected 140 were passenger, 381 freight and 16 Humphrey.

The cities of Lethbridge and Medicine Hat not having resident inspectors received periodical visits. Lethbridge received six and Medicine Hat three.

During the period ten new factories, employing 196 males and 45 females, commenced operations.

Inspectors issued a number of permits for overtime for reasons of trade during the period. These were for stocktaking, seasonal occupations and banquets.

Six Apprentice Indentures were approved under the provisions of Section 20 of the Act.

The accompanying tables explain in detail the work performed.

Table No. 1 gives the number of inspections made during the period under review of shops (retail and wholesale), factories, offices and office buildings, the number of employees (male and female) engaged in each industry, and the number of recommendations made.

TABLE No. 1.

A TABULATION OF INSPECTIONS, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FIFTEEN MONTHS ENDING MARCH 31, 1928.

Industry	No. of Inspections	No. of Places Inspected	No. of Male Employees	No. of Female Employees	Total No. of Employees	Recommendations Made
Shops	2,083	1,761	7,200	3,048	10,248	85
Factories	929	744	10,914	1,807	12,721	357
Offices and Office Buildings	1,115	920	2,949	1,481	4,430	40
Total	4,127	3,425	21,063	6,336	27,399	482

Table No. 2 gives a tabulation of inspections made by location of industries.

TABLE No. 2
TABULATION BY CITIES OF INSPECTIONS MADE, GIVING NUMBER OF PLACES INSPECTED, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (MALE AND FEMALE) EMPLOYED

Location	No. of Inspections	No. of Places Inspected and Nature of Industry	No. of Employees		Total No. of Employees
			Male	Female	
Edmonton	662	624 Shops	2,806	1,326	4,132
“	447	358 Offices and Office Buildings	833	515	1,348
“	237	220 Factories	3,584	883	4,467
Total	1,346	1,202 Places	7,223	2,724	9,947
Calgary	1,202	924 Shops	3,893	1,475	5,368
“	609	504 Offices and Office Buildings	2,091	897	2,988
“	428	305 Factories	5,016	639	5,655
Total	2,239	1,733 Places	11,000	3,011	14,011
Lethbridge	133	129 Shops	349	166	515
“	38	37 Offices and Office Buildings	19	55	74
“	52	39 Factories	437	69	506
Total	223	205 Places	805	290	1,095
Medicine Hat	86	84 Shops	152	81	233
“	21	21 Offices and Office Buildings	6	14	20
“	27	27 Factories	574	52	626
Total	134	132 Places	732	147	879
Other Points	185	153 Factories	1,303	164	1,468

Table No. 3 gives a tabulation of the recommendations made by locality and industry. “Safety” covers the guarding of machinery, stairways and openings and the providing of fire escapes and access thereto. “Health” covers sanitation, ventilation and lighting. “Hours and wages” are recommendations made to enforce the observance of the provisions of Sections 20 and 23 of the Act. “Number of Children Employed” are recommendations made, where children under fifteen years of age were found to be employed, for discontinuance of same.

TABLE No. 3
TABULATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE ACCORDING TO LOCATION AND
NATURE OF INDUSTRY

Location	Industry	Safety	Hours	Wages	No. of Children Employed	Health	Total
Edmonton	Shops	12	12	6	....	5	35
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	....	3	16	....	2	21
"	Factories	40	11	4	....	10	65
	Total.....	52	26	26	....	17	121
Calgary	Shops	6	21	2	....	6	35
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	....	10	7	....	1	18
"	Factories	23	15	2	1	3	44
	Total.....	29	46	11	1	10	97
Lethbridge	Shops .....	....	1	4	....	....	5
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	....	....	1	....	....	1
"	Factories	3	5	1	....	2	11
	Total.....	3	6	6	....	2	17
Medicine Hat	Shops	3	2	3	....	2	10
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
"	Factories .....	....	6	....	....	1	7
	Total.....	3	8	3	....	3	17
Other Points	Factories	219	8	....	....	3	230

TABLE No. 4
TABULATION OF ELEVATOR INSPECTIONS.

Location of Elevators	Passenger Elevators			Freight Elevators			Humphrey Elevators			Total Number of		
	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	Insp.	Elevs.	Recs.
Edmonton	51	46	56	138	133	97	2	2	....	191	181	153
Calgary	70	66	60	298	200	62	8	8	....	376	274	122
Lethbridge	6	4	11	25	23	12	2	1	....	33	28	23
Medicine Hat	2	2	....	17	17	11	5	5	....	24	24	11
Outside Points	22	22	21	8	8	16	....	....	....	30	30	37
Total.....	151	140	148	486	381	198	17	16	....	654	537	346

MINIMUM WAGE.

Under the provisions of The Minimum Wage Act, 2,918 inspections were made of 2,507 businesses, in which were employed 6,479 experienced females and 461 learners; 163 orders for adjustments of wages were made, 52 for adjustment of hours, and 12 for adjust-

ment of staff, so that not more than 25 per cent. would be in receipt of apprentice wages.

There was an increase in the total number of females employed under all Orders, the total increase under all Orders being 612.

Inspectors found a number of females in receipt of wages less than the minimum rate and a number who were working longer hours than the maximum fixed by the Board. All wages and hours were adjusted by employers when the infractions were brought to their attention by the inspectors.

One Court case was taken against a Beauty Parlor in Calgary. This was dismissed by the magistrate on the ground that it was a College in which students received training and not a place of business within the meaning of the Act. An appeal was taken to the Appellate Court, which sustained the decision of the magistrate.

A number of permits were issued for overtime to be worked to take care of emergencies that had arisen. In all cases we were advised regarding the number of hours worked and the amount paid for same.

TABULATION OF INSPECTIONS, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER THE MINIMUM WAGE ACT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1927, TO MARCH 31, 1928.

	No. of Inspections	No. of Businesses Visited	No. of Experienced Female Employees	No. of Apprentices	Recommendations for Adjustment		
					Wages	Hours	Percentage Apprentices
Order No. 1— Manufacturing	326	281	974	148	21	3	3
Order No. 2— Laundries, Dyeing and Cleaning	30	25	281	51	10	....	....
Order No. 3— Hotels and Restaurants..	335	291	894	26	59	22	....
Order No. 4— Personal Service	105	95	211	21	13	8	4
Order No. 5— Office Occupation	1659	1403	2701	128	47	3	1
Order No. 6— Retail Establishments	463	412	1418	87	13	16	5
Totals of All	2918	2507	6479	461	163	52	12

REPORT OF MINIMUM WAGE BOARD

HON. J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier of Alberta.

Sir:—

The Minimum Wage Board of Alberta has the honour to present its fifth annual report covering the various matters which have been dealt with by the Board during the period January 1st, 1927, to March 31st, 1928.

Requests received for decisions to be made by the Board in respect of overtime, apprentices and handicapped employees only necessitated the holding of three meetings.

Five requests were received from individual firms for permission to work their female employees overtime to permit of seasonal rush trade being taken care of; all these requests were granted. Additional to this, requests were received from merchants of Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat for permission to work their employees additional hours during Christmas rush. Permission was granted to all merchants who applied. In each case employers were required to observe the provisions of the various Orders of the Board relative to payment for overtime.

Three requests were received for special rates to be fixed for handicapped employees. After investigation and report by an inspector of the Bureau of Labour, a special rate was fixed in each of the three cases.

One request was received for permission to employ a greater number of apprentices than is permitted by the regulations; as the industry was a new one and experienced help was not available, permission was granted for the number necessary to meet the requirements of the industry.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) A. A. CARPENTER,
Chairman, Minimum Wage Board.

(Sgd.) W. SMITTEN,
Secretary, Minimum Wage Board.

THEATRE INSPECTION

(G. P. BARBER, *Chief Inspector*)

The accompanying charts display a marked difference between the revenue as received for the twelve months of 1927 and that received for the first three months of 1928.

This difference arises from the fact that all certificates granted to motion picture machine attendants expire on the 31st day of December, and the greater portion of these certificates are renewed for the succeeding term in January or February of each year. Added to this, the operators of narrow gauge picture machines using 16 millimeter and 28 millimeter films are now paying a license fee of \$1.00 for a Provisory Permit covering the use of portable equipment. The charging of a fee for such equipment began on January 2nd, 1928.

Taken on an average monthly basis, the increase in the number of certificates issued is 95%, and in the revenue received the increase is 74%, with a 37% increase in the number of inspections over the 1926 period.

A notable feature in connection with motion picture work is the additional number of apprentices during the past fifteen months. In comparison with the 1926 report there is an average of 55% more apprentices throughout the Province. Herein consists the material for developing the motion picture industry in the smaller centres, or extending the field already entered upon by the itinerant exhibitor.

One film fire was reported in February of this year as occurring during a Saturday night showing at one of the theatres at Lacombe. The blaze was fortunately of short duration and destroyed only 600 feet of film. The machine, however, had to be repaired, but no other damage was done either to the projection-room or theatre. Some of the patrons left the theatre, while others stayed on to see the remainder of the programme.

Complaints were recently received from exhibitors in Edmonton that some of their operators are in the habit of reading and smoking while displaying pictures before an audience. This being a direct violation of the regulations a letter of warning was addressed to the secretary of the local organization, asking that the members be reminded of the ruling as to fire hazards, and advising that the practice be immediately discontinued. The penalty for these offences is suspension or cancellation of certificates.

TABLE No. 1

TABULATIONS OF THEATRE INSPECTIONS AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE FIFTEEN MONTH PERIOD FROM JAN. 1st, 1927, TO MARCH 31st, 1928.

Total No. of Inspections	No. of Theatres Inspected	Recommendations re Exits	Rec. re Aisle Seats	Rec. re Ventilation and Sanitation	Rec. re Fire Precaution
258	258	262	19	6	54

TABLE No. 2
TABULATION OF PROJECTION-ROOM INSPECTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE FIFTEEN
MONTH PERIOD FROM JAN. 1st, 1927, TO MARCH 31st, 1928.

Projection Rooms Inspected	No. of Projectors Inspected	Recom- mended for Repairs	Projectors Condemned as Defect.	No. of Wiring Recoms.	Ventilation Recs.	Fire Precaution Recom.	No. of Rooms Condemned
162	188	78	4	11	26	65	12

TABLE No. 3
SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS TOGETHER WITH NUMBER AND CLASS OF
CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO PROJECTIONISTS FOR THE FIFTEEN
MONTH PERIOD FROM JAN. 1st, 1927, TO MARCH 31st, 1928.

Number of Certificates Issued							No. of Exams Held			No. of Special Permits	No. of For- feitures	Cash Receipts	
1st	2nd	3rd	Provi- sional	Appr.	Provisory Permits		1st	2nd	3rd				
					28 mm.	16 mm.							
72	103	140	26	93	95	3	3	55	141	15	1	Certs.	\$3,910.00
												Forfeits	5.00
Totals.....							199			15	1	\$3,915.00	

BOILER INSPECTION

(F. W. HOBSON, *Chief Inspector*)

The staff has been able to cover the major part of the pressure vessels within the Province which required earliest attention, with the exception of those located north of Township 70. Several trips have been made to this northern territory to undertake the inspections of newly-imported boilers at the request of the purchasers, but a general inspection of boilers and other pressure vessels has not been made in that district for the past three years. An inspector should be sent into that territory when the roads will permit of travel by car. In addition to the foregoing, several special inspections have been made of boilers at points outside the Province, at the expense of intending purchasers, under Section 16 of the Act.

Weather and road conditions during last fall badly hindered the work of inspecting the licensed agricultural boilers. Consequently, the number inspected, for which license plates had been previously issued, was much lower than usual.

We have been compelled to spend a large portion of our time in the inspection and test of compressed air dump installations in grain elevators. This new utility is for the purpose of handling grain brought in by the farmers on wagons, and have been installed in many grain elevators throughout the Province. We are pleased to report that these have, in every instance, been constructed and installed according to the requirements of the Act and the Canadian Interprovincial Regulations.

Our inspection of this air equipment covers all details connected with the complete installation, in addition to the test of the air receiver for possible defects; the details of the design and construction having been previously surveyed and registered by the Chief Inspector. After an initial inspection and test have been made at each elevator, no further attention should be required for a number of years on account of the substantial nature of the equipment.

The past fifteen months period has been a record one for safe operation of steam plants. No accidents of a very serious nature have been reported.

A 12"×48"×1/8" air tank exploded in the Northern Supply Company's Garage, Peace River, on December 22nd. This tank had been previously inspected and tested on the occasion of the inspector's last visit in that district. It failed at the circumferential joint of the concave head. This head was blown through the side of the building, while the body of the tank passed out through the opposite gable end and landed about 150 yards away.

Reporting upon his inspection, the inspector stated that he found the tank had been installed without the necessary safety appliances required by the Act and regulations. The owners purchased a safety valve at his request and located it on the discharge line. This was set to release at a pressure of 130 lbs., and sealed, after a hydrostatic test had been applied to the tank of nearly twice the working pressure. Before leaving the premises the inspector or-

dered the owners to further equip the tank with a proper drain at the lowest point, and also a fusible plug, but evidently this additional equipment was not provided. He also recommended them to purchase a more reliable tank, one which had been approved and registered by the Department.

In the construction of the tank which exploded, it was found that the concave head had been merely pressed into the end of the shell to the full depth of the flange, and then dipped into a hot white metal bath to seal the joint. It is supposed that the explosion was caused by the tank becoming overheated and the residue of the compressor oil, which should have been drained from the tank, increased in temperature to the point which caused it to become volatile and ignite. This conclusion was reached due to the fact that the tank shows evident signs of having been overheated, and the owners said that when found it was covered with a coating of ice due to the snow having melted around it.

A tandem compound high speed "Ideal" engine was wrecked at the Leland Coal Company's plant, Taber, due to a fracture in the cross-head casting through the keyway slot. The engine was under load and running quietly at normal speed when the fracture occurred, allowing the pistons to be driven back through the cylinder heads, thus reducing both high and low pressure cylinders to scrap. No personal injury resulted from the accident.

Marcel Charest, of St. Paul, met with a painful accident on April 27th, when he attempted to put the governor belt on the driving pulley of traction engine No. (A) 8593 while the engine was slowly turning over. His left hand and arm were drawn in between the pulley and the top of the boiler, and the flesh of these members was very badly bruised and burned.

While examining a crack in the engine frame of a locomotive which is used at the Consolidated Diamond Collieries, Ltd., yards, Inspector Marshall noticed water dropping from a joint in the lagging casing underneath the boiler, and further, that this condensate appeared to be due to the steam leaking from around the dome casing. Upon examination, it was found that a crack had developed in the front course of the barrel of the boiler throughout a length of 17" as taken from a point near the circumferential seam outwards in a longitudinal direction. This crack showed up particularly when the pressure on the boiler exceeded 100 lbs. The plate was pitted inside to a depth of $\frac{1}{8}$ " to $\frac{3}{16}$ " on each side of the crack, and also for one-third the circumference of the boiler in spots from $\frac{1}{32}$ " to $\frac{7}{32}$ " deep. Substantial repairs were ordered, in order to allow the boiler to continue at the rated working pressure.

This careful investigation on the part of Inspector Marshall has undoubtedly averted a very serious boiler explosion.

A number of cases were reported by the inspectors, and others, of boiler failures due to low water, also the precipitation of scale and foreign matter on the heating surface. In one instance the engineer allowed a 66" \times 16'0" boiler to run dry, and consequently the plates of the boiler were badly damaged and new longitudinal stays had to be fitted.

Special visits of inspection had to be made at the request of owners of sawmills and other power plants which had been damaged

by fire, and where the boilers, piping, etc., had been subject to the intense heat of the burning building. It was necessary, in some cases, to condemn part of the equipment, while others were passed after repairs had been made.

One of the plants above referred to was the Alberta Wood Preserving plant, Calgary. In order to assist this company as far as possible to get their plant again into operation, quite a little of our time and attention was required. Four of the seven 78"×85'0" creosoting retorts, which operated at pressures up to 200 pounds per square inch, were so badly warped and twisted that they were condemned for further use, together with a large quantity of piping, valves and other accessories. The remaining three retorts were passed after the necessary repairs ordered were finished.

We sent Inspector Hargreaves to Port Francis to make an inspection of two 84"×70'0" and 90'0" cylinders. The company had both cylinders lengthened in Winnipeg, and these, together with a new 84"×132'0" retort which was built to an approved design according to the Regulations, are installed as a new section to the present creosoting system. I recently inspected this installation, together with Inspector Hargreaves, and at the request of the company did advise upon the piping arrangement and other matters, in view of the very urgent demand for creosote material for bridge work and such other construction which is being held up in the meantime.

A summary of the boiler inspections for the fifteen months dating from January, 1927, to March, 1928, is as follows:

CLASSIFICATION OF BOILERS AND OTHER PRESSURE VESSELS INSPECTED FROM JAN. 1st, 1927, TO MARCH 31st, 1928.

Inspector	Marshall	Dick	Hawkins	Hargreaves	Bradshaw	Scott	Douglas	Alexander	Cargill	Buxton	Total
Horizontal Return Tubular....	50	54	48	14	73	65	70	46	84	67	571
Horizontal Furnace	5	....	5	....	5	18	11	7	11	5	67
Water Tube	87	12	47	5	23	18	4	....	16	21	233
Locomotive	85	131	112	23	188	91	144	226	61	42	1103
Vertical	12	20	5	12	19	24	16	17	38	28	191
Air Receivers	104	81	86	21	42	69	67	91	29	11	601
Steel Heating	50	63	....	18	42	140	36	29	58	30	466
Cast Iron	2	67	51	41	47	81	59	30	18	13	409
Miscellaneous .....	....	3	....	1	....	9	....	....	....	....	13
Total No. Inspected	395	431	354	135	439	515	407	446	315	217	3654
Total Certificates Issued.....	347	386	348	123	333	280	344	340	261	217	2979
Total Number Inspec. Visits	467	460	491	249	521	555	433	479	321	238	4214
Condition of Pressure Vessels Inspected—											
Good	257	240	154	61	253	418	335	250	178	165	2311
Fair	135	189	155	59	111	93	68	183	112	52	1157
Poor	3	....	45	15	73	4	3	13	25	....	181
Condemned .....	....	2	....	....	2	....	1	1	....	....	6
Special Inspections under Sec. No. 16 of Act.....	28	11	5	1	....	8	17	9	7	....	86

Regarding engineers' examinations, the regular monthly examinations of candidates for engineers' certificates have been conducted at the district inspectors' headquarters at seven points in the Province, making a total of eighty-four examinations. In addition

to these, Inspector Cargill was sent to the northern part of the Province beyond township 70, where he held examinations at five principal points. We are furnishing a summary of the number and class of certificates issued as the result of these examinations, tabulated as follows:

NUMBER AND CLASS OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED

Inspector	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	Tract. Final	F.F. Cert.	Prov. Cert.	Ren. Prov.	Permits
J. F. Hawkins	45	6	1	49	18	...
N. Marshall	4	31	13	9	34	19	11
A. Bradshaw	2	8	7	...	35	13	2
R. Scott	2	14	12	...	31	18	2
A. W. Dick	1	6	...	2	18	20	1
J. Buxton	1	10	1	...	21	10	1
T. J. Hargreaves	2	...	...
J. Douglas	2	15	10	...	30	20	5
J. F. Cargill	2	36	15	8	101	26	...
H. G. Alexander	17	11	...	43	27	1
Office	4	28	15	...	25	202	11
Totals.....	...	18	210	90	20	389	373	34

Our senior inspector, Mr. Jos. Buxton, of Calgary, was superannuated on October 1st, 1927, after the long term of service with the Steam Boilers Branch of nearly thirty years. Mr. Buxton and Mr. D. Evans were the first inspectors appointed under the Act by the Government of the North-West Territories. It was chiefly due to the pioneer work of Mr. Buxton, however, which provided for the establishment of the present basic standard of safety upon which the inspection branches of both Provinces have so successfully carried out this public service.

Mr. T. J. Hargreaves was appointed as Inspector of Boilers at Calgary, and was chosen for the position partly on account of his having had previous experience in boiler inspection work with the Department as Assistant Inspector in the Lethbridge district. Mr. Hargreaves is also otherwise well qualified to fill this position.

A revision of the Canadian Interprovincial Regulations has been found necessary for some time past in order to properly standardize the construction and inspection of boilers and other pressure vessels.

The principal features of the present regulations which required revision were agreed upon by the chief inspectors of the seven Provinces in the Dominion, in conference at Toronto in May, 1927.

A total of thirty-four permits has been issued under the provisions of Section 39 of the Act during the past fifteen months. The issue of these permits was necessary in each case, and principally to supply the demand for additional engineers during the harvest operations.

Twenty prosecutions were found to be necessary for alleged infraction of the Act, and with the co-operation of the Provincial Police seventeen convictions have been secured under its provisions. In one instance, the engineer tampered with the safety valve of the boiler under his charge and increased the working pressure. He was convicted under Section 34 of the Act and had his certificate

suspended in addition. Six cases were dealt with where the owners were operating boilers requiring to be licensed, without the necessary license plate required by Section 4. Six convictions were secured under Section 38 against persons operating without being in possession of an engineer's certificate. In three instances steam users were penalized for employing uncertificated persons to operate the boiler plant, under Section 40 of the Act. One conviction was secured under Section 37 for neglecting to pay the inspection fee for the inspection certificate.

FEES COLLECTED

For Inspection of Boilers and Special Inspections.....	\$18,620.53
For Examination of Candidates for Engineers' Certifi- cates	5,510.00
For Permits	255.00
For Survey of Drawings	927.00
For Issue of Boiler License Plates	14,378.50
For Engineers' Re-registration Certificates.....	3,154.00
For Miscellaneous	572.00
Total.....	<u>\$43,417.03</u>

REPORT OF DIRECTOR, ALBERTA GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICES

Industry generally throughout the Province showed a marked improvement over the previous year. This was reflected in the work of employment offices by increased requests from employers for workmen. The number of vacancies filled was 75,769. There was a marked increase in the vacancies for farming, building construction, lumbering, mining and casual employment. Domestic and personal and manufacturing were practically equal, while there was a material reduction in the vacancies for general labouring and railroad construction and operation.

The decrease in these two classes is due in large measure to the fact that during the spring and early summer large number of immigrants were brought to the Province from Central Europe who could not be assimilated in agriculture and were, through the colonization offices, attached to the two large transcontinental railroad companies, found employment on extra gangs and general labouring work.

Of the 75,769 vacancies filled, 66,429 were for males and 9,340 for females.

While we had an increase in the number of vacancies filled for females, many more could have been placed on farms and in domestic employment in the cities had they been available.

During the period January 1st, 1927, to March 31st, 1928, we had 551 more vacancies for females on farms than applicants, and 35 more vacancies than applicants for domestic work in the cities.

Of the male placements, 44,021 were sent to farms, 2,069 to building construction, 130 to clerical work, 1,315 to domestic and personal occupations, 1,924 to general labouring, 5,841 to lumber camps, 511 to manufacturing industries, 8 to professional and personal occupations, 2,700 for railroad construction and operation, 1,185 for mining, 1,280 to miscellaneous occupations, and 5,445 for casual employment.

Of the female placements, 2,058 were sent to farms, 3,472 as domestics, 39 to clerical positions, 5 to manufacturing, 7 to miscellaneous occupations, and 3,759 to casual employment.

The operating costs were maintained at the low level of the previous year, but with the increase in work performed the average cost for each vacancy filled was reduced from 64¾ cents to 62¾ cents, notwithstanding the fact that the 15 months under review includes two low placement periods.

The continued and extended use made of the offices by employers and workmen indicates an appreciation of the service given. The percentage of vacancies received that were filled and applicants who were found employment shows how closely we are meeting requirements. This year, of the 68,480 vacancies received in the male section 97% were filled, and of the 71,396 male applicants 89.6% were found positions. Of the 11,242 vacancies received in the female section, 83% were filled, and of the 10,879 female applicants 83.6% were found positions.

Following the practice of previous years, during May a circular was forwarded to all United Farmers' Locals requesting a statement of the acreage in crop. The returns indicated a slight increase over 1926. Periodical returns received of crop conditions indicated a heavy yield per acre. From this information we were able to arrive at a fairly accurate estimate of the number of men required for the harvest.

During July a meeting was held in Winnipeg of representatives of the Employment Service of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia with the Western Passenger Association of the Railways to arrange for the bringing of sufficient numbers of men to the prairies to harvest the crop.

The estimated requirements at that date were: Manitoba 9,000, Saskatchewan 40,000, Alberta 18,000. Local harvest labour available was estimated to be: Manitoba 6,000, Saskatchewan 20,000, Alberta 8,000. Labour available in British Columbia was estimated to be 6,000, which left 27,000 to be brought by excursion from the East. The estimated requirements for the East last year were 51,000.

The railways were requested and agreed to run the excursions from the East in four series, dates of arrival at Winnipeg to be August 25th and 28th and September 2nd and 9th.

Excursions from British Columbia were limited to Alberta and Western Saskatchewan and excursions from the East were available to all Provinces. The railway officials fixed dates for excursions from British Columbia from August 15th to September 7th.

In view of the fact that employment conditions in Eastern Canada were good, and the experience of the previous year, when the number who came from the East was much less than that requested, the railways were asked to agree to provide special settlers' rates to men recruited in adjoining States by immigration officials in the event of such steps being considered necessary. We were informed that no decision could be made at that date, but that should it be demonstrated there was a shortage of help in the various sections during harvest the question would be considered.

On account of the large numbers of immigrants who were brought to Western Canada during the early part of the year, it was considered that a much larger portion of the total number required for harvest could be secured locally, as it was expected the majority of the immigrants would be available for this work, but when the demand for men came it was found these men were continued in employment on extra gangs and railroad construction.

When figures were available as to the numbers of men en route on the first three excursions, it was seen that we could not expect to secure sufficient help from the East and British Columbia, and we requested the railways to apply special settlers' rates for men in adjoining States who would be recruited by immigration officials. This request was refused, but we were advised that special Employment Service rates could apply at Kingsgate and Coutts, provided we sent a man to each of these points to issue certificates. Immediately this advice was received a man was sent to each of these points, and an advertising campaign conducted in Washington and Montana, as a result of which approximately 1,000 men were secured.

The total number of harvesters who came to the Provinces from all sources was 8,851, of whom 4,903 were from the East, 2,948 from British Columbia, and 1,000 from the United States.

After the arrival of these men we still had a serious shortage, which was relieved to some extent by the arrival of numbers of harvesters from Saskatchewan, where harvesting was completed.

The experiences of the past two years suggest that we cannot expect to obtain as large a number of men as formerly. This, coupled with the fact that the acreage sown to crop is increasing heavily each year, presents a serious problem for the future. If the situation is to be met in a manner that will provide for the expansion without serious hardships being caused, some plan will have to be adopted that will make available for the short harvest period large numbers of workmen engaged in the Province in other activities, intermittently, throughout the balance of the year, or that recruiting of men in the United States will have to be carried on at the same time as it is in Eastern Canada and British Columbia.

The accompanying charts and tables show the business transacted by the Employment Service for the period under review, by occupations, months and offices.

TOTAL BUSINESS BY OCCUPATION, JAN. 1st, 1927, TO MARCH 31st, 1928.
MALE

OCCUPATION	Applications	Unplaced March 31	Vacancies	Unfilled March 31	Placements	Transfers	
						In	Out
Agriculture	43,068	121	45,910	26	38,861	5,160	2,630
Building Construction	2,737	57	2,080	....	1,996	73	85
Clerical and Mercantile.....	636	15	133	1	130	....	1
Domestic and Personal....	2,203	87	1,317	....	1,265	50	66
General Laborers	4,230	89	1,949	....	1,860	64	45
Lumbering	5,905	7	5,860	....	5,538	303	325
Manufacturing	1,403	64	528	4	474	37	33
Professional and Technical	86	3	9	....	7	1	1
Railroad Construction and Operation	2,909	17	2,712	....	2,643	57	122
Mining	1,664	4	1,233	....	1,138	47	44
Miscellaneous	2,352	78	1,304	....	1,232	48	43
Casuals	4,203	1	5,445	....	5,445	....	....
Total, Male.....	71,396	544	68,480	31	60,589	5,840	3,395

FEMALE

Agriculture	2,393	22	2,944	80	1,674	384	154
Clerical and Mercantile	126	2	42	....	39	....	....
Domestic and Personal	4,450	51	4,485	105	3,356	116	95
Manufacturing	4	....	5	....	5	....	....
Miscellaneous	4	....	7	....	7	....	....
Casuals	3,902	7	3,759	....	3,759	....	....
Totals, Female.....	10,879	82	11,242	185	8,840	500	249

BUREAU OF LABOUR

TOTAL BUSINESS BY DISTRICTS, JAN. 1st, 1927, TO MARCH 31st, 1928.

MALE—	Applications.	Vacancies.	Placements.	Transfers.	
				In.	Out.
Calgary	25,183	22,477	19,534	2,015	1,579
Edmonton	27,343	26,186	24,663	1,305	1,240
Lethbridge	7,269	8,039	6,546	1,045	345
Medicine Hat	5,368	5,799	5,299	428	97
Drumheller	6,233	6,009	4,547	1,047	134
	71,396	68,480	60,589	5,840	3,395

FEMALE—	Applications.	Vacancies.	Placements.	Transfers.	
				In.	Out.
Calgary	4,610	4,245	3,142	122	201
Edmonton	3,551	4,282	3,438	194	22
Lethbridge	1,790	1,732	1,495	44	11
Medicine Hat	515	543	507	12	8
Drumheller	413	440	258	128	7
	10,879	11,242	8,840	500	249

TOTAL BUSINESS BY MONTHS, JAN. 1st, 1927, TO MARCH 31st, 1928.

MALE—	Applications.	Vacancies.	Placements.	Transfers.	
				In.	Out.
January	2,331	1,621	1,508	105	105
February	1,914	1,487	1,404	91	92
March	1,900	1,385	1,303	72	71
April	4,709	4,126	3,873	234	250
May	3,838	3,356	3,214	155	151
June	3,225	2,790	2,681	105	122
July	3,834	3,550	3,383	156	159
August	6,182	6,082	5,241	770	590
September	16,499	20,565	15,674	2,634	624
October	11,545	11,227	10,757	726	450
November	4,507	3,674	3,505	259	204
December	2,804	2,208	2,042	147	146
January	2,403	1,709	1,644	88	83
February	2,089	1,640	1,516	107	166
March	3,616	3,061	2,844	191	182
	71,396	68,480	60,589	5,840	3,395

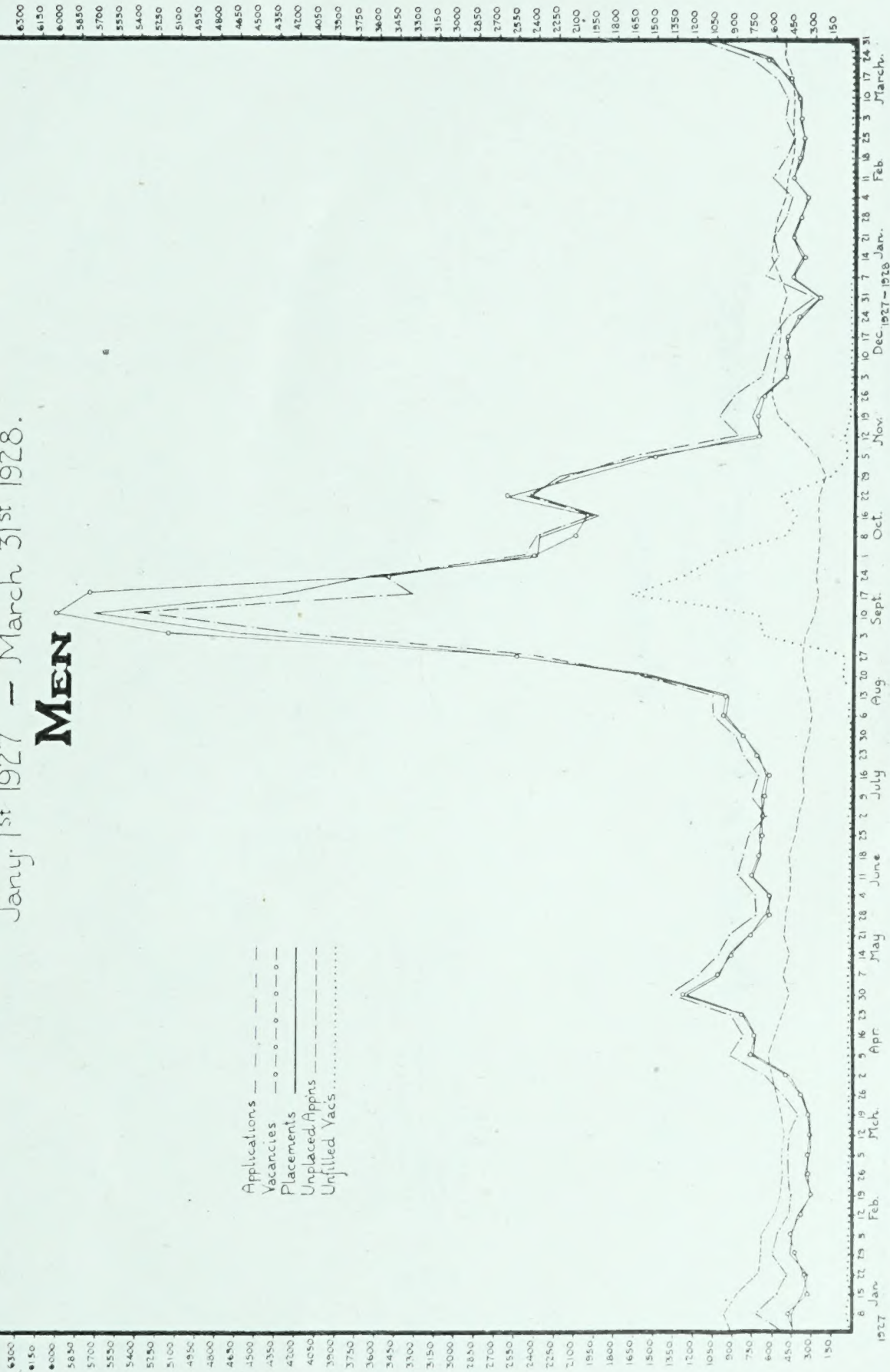
FEMALE—	Applications.	Vacancies.	Placements.	Transfers.	
				In.	Out.
January	606	472	425	12	13
February	518	450	397	7	8
March	623	608	479	18	18
April	818	1,001	709	23	19
May	646	647	533	13	10
June	700	730	600	12	14
July	852	809	684	12	15
August	781	880	623	29	21
September	884	1,159	723	269	22
October	891	930	781	18	19
November	679	643	570	16	17
December	663	669	572	12	13
January	705	576	506	13	12
February	613	626	493	14	19
March	900	1,042	745	32	29
	10,879	11,242	8,840	500	249

ALBERTA EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Jan'y 1st 1927 - March 31st 1928.

MEN

Applications ---
Vacancies - - - - -
Placements - - - - -
Unplaced Appns - - - - -
Unfilled Vacs.



ALBERTA EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Jan'y 1st 1927 - March 31st 1928.

WOMEN

Applications -----
 Vacancies - - - - -
 Placements - - - - -
 Unplaced Appns - - - - -
 Unfilled Yacs

